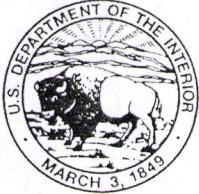


file m/003/026



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Salt Lake Field Office
2370 South 2300 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

IN REPLY REFER TO:

APR 13 2000

3809
U-77034
(UT-023)

Certified Mail #Z 181 696 952
Return Receipt Requested

Lon Thomas
Star Stone Quarries, Inc.
4040 South 300 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84107

RECEIVED

APR 14 2000

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING

Dear Mr. Thomas:

On March 14, 2000, we received your incomplete Plan of Operations to conduct mining activities on your Rosebud 1 and Rosebud 2 placer mining claims located in T. 10 N., R. 16 W., Section 14.

We cannot consider your Plan to be complete until you provide this office with the following additional information:

1. On Page 11 of your Plan of Operations, regarding reclamation, you state that the waste dumps "will be sloped at a greater angle than the original slopes." You also state that "a D-8 dozer will be used to recontour the dumps to a grade moderately steeper than the existing slope of the hill."

In order to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation to Public Lands, your reclamation plan must include a proposal to remove or "pull-back" all of the waste material from your hillside mine dumps and adjacent drainage, and place this material back into the excavations when operations are completed, or as a part of concurrent reclamation. None of the waste material can be left in its present sidecast location. Please provide this office with plan-view and cross-sectional maps of each quarry that show this modification as a part of Star Stone's final reclamation proposal.

In addition, after the waste dumps have been "pulled back" into the quarry, any stockpiled topsoil must be placed over the reclaimed hillslopes and the areas must be revegetated with an appropriate seed mixture. If no topsoil was saved during excavation of the quarries, topsoil for final reclamation must be brought into the area from offsite to complete final reclamation.

2. Please modify your final reclamation maps and associated acreages for the Rosebud 1 and Rosebud 2 quarries to reflect the changes outlined in #1 (above).
3. On page 7 and 8 of your Plan of Operations, you state that "overburden/waste material will be dozed with a D-8 dozer to the closest available waste dump, usually on the downhill side of the quarry from which the overburden is excavated." You also state that "as a result, individual waste dumps will grow at a slow annual rate." Your proposal to continue to expand the waste dumps into the adjacent drainage will not be authorized by this office. Any additional waste material developed by your mining operation must be placed on the presently existing waste dump, or used as backfill material in the existing quarries. This material is not to be sidecast over the adjacent hillside. Please modify your Plan of Operations and acreage to reflect this change.
4. On page 8 of your Plan of Operations, your proposal to post "No Trespassing" signs at your Rosebud mining claims cannot be authorized by this office. "No trespassing" signs suggest that the land is privately owned and not part of the Public Domain. Please modify your Plan of Operations to reflect this change.
5. Please provide this office with your Mine Safety Health Administration (MSHA) permit number.

During the preparation of an Environmental Assessment for Star Stone's proposed operation in the Rosebud area, additional information may be requested or modifications to the Plan of Operations may be required. Please provide the requested information within 30 days of receipt of this letter or we will consider your Plan of Operations to be withdrawn. Mining-related activities may not occur on the subject mining claims prior to obtaining approval from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Because of the establishment of a Record of Noncompliance, the operator will also be required to post a reclamation bond for 100% of BLM's estimated costs of reclamation, including administrative costs, for any proposed mining activities. If you have any questions, or require additional information, please feel free to contact Michael Ford of my staff at (801) 977-4360.

Sincerely,

GLENN A. CARPENTER

Glenn A. Carpenter
Field Office Manager

cc: D. Wayne Hedberg
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining